(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) 'Land' and 'Colonisation' being State subjects, it is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to provide for adequate shelter. However, the Union Government has formulated the first urban area focused National Urban Housing & Habitat Policy 2007 to set in motion a process in providing 'Affordable Housing for All' particularly the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG).

This policy intends to promote sustainable development of habitat in the country with a view to ensuring equitable supply of land, shelter and services at affordable prices to all sections of society.

Apart from this, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), launched by the Government in the year 2005 caters to provision of housing and basic services to urban poor in 65 specified cities under the Sub Mission Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and in other cities and towns under the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP). A total of 461 projects under Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and 839 projects under Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) have been approved all over the country so far envisaging construction/upgradation of 993523 and 461887 dwelling units respectively.

A new scheme - Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP) has been launched for providing Interest subsidy on housing urban poor to make the housing affordable and within the repaying capacity of Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) / Low Income Group (LIG). The scheme encourages poor sections to avail of loan facilities through Commercial Banks/Housing Finance Companies for the purposes of construction/acquisition of houses and avail 5% subsidy in interest payment for loans upto Rs.1 lakh.

Further, the newly launched Scheme of Affordable Housing in Partnership would cover Middle Income Group (MIG) dwelling units also. Central Government assistance under this scheme will be provided for the provision of civic services such as water supply including ground level/overhead service reservoirs, storm water drainage, solid waste management, sewerage including common sewerage treatment facilities, rain water harvesting, approach roads, electricity lines including electricity transformers, parks and playgrounds and other amenities.

Projects in cities under BSUP

631. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cities in the State of West Bengal selected under the Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) under JNNURM;

(b) the details of projects undertaken and funds provided since implementation of the scheme in December, 2005; and

(c) the number of houses/shelter and other basic services and civic amenities provided in the above cities?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Kolkata and Asansol are Mission Cities in the State of West Bengal under the Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).

(b) and (c) Total 91 projects with total project cost Rs.3293.04 crores and Central Share Rs. 1607.42 crores have been approved for construction/upgradation of 140052 dwelling units and related infrastructure under the Basic Services to the Urban Poor.

Employment Guarantee Scheme in Urban Areas

632. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that poverty and unemployment are on the rise in the urban areas also;

(b) whether Government is thinking to implement the National Employment Guarantee Scheme in the urban areas also as a poverty alleviation measure;

(c) if so, by when it would be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation has no proposal under consideration to launch an employment guarantee scheme for the urban poor.

(d) Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation has been implementing an employment oriented Centrally sponsored scheme for urban poverty alleviation named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) on all India basis with effect from 01.12.1997.

The scheme has been comprehensively revamped in February, 2009 to address various issues arising from implementation. The revamped SJSRY has five components:-

(i) Urban Self-Employment Programme (USEP)

(ii) Urban Women Self-help Programme (UWSP)

(iii) Skill Training for Employment Promotion amongst Urban Poor (STEP-UP)

(iv) Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP)

(v) Urban Community Development Network (UCDN)

The revamped SJSRY has provided focus on skill development of urban poor to access the emerging employment opportunities, self-employment and also wage employment.